

BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2006

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, February 27, 2006, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street in Bristol, RI. The Chairperson, Marjorie J. McBride, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Present: Marjorie J. McBride, William A. Estrella, Jr., William M. O'Dell, Thomas E. Skuba, Paul E. Brule, Joyce M. Kinsella, John P. Saviano, Paul Silva and Beverly Z. Travers; Edward P. Mara, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools; Donna Bettencourt-Glavin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Grants; Jane F. Correia, Director of Administration and Finance; Leslie A. Neubauer, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

Absent: none

OPENING BUSINESS

All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mr. O'Dell read the District's Mission Statement.

Accolades

Not only do our students do notable things, but our staff members also deserve recognition for actions above and beyond the magic they perform everyday. A second grade teacher at Hugh Cole School performed the Heimlich Maneuver on a fellow staff member who was choking. We are grateful to Mary Almon for her quick action and heroic deed.

Four of our students won awards in the prestigious Rhode Island Scholastic Art Awards Competition. Their artwork has been exhibited at the RI Scholastic Art Exhibit during the month of February.

Freshman Stephanie Zack won a Silver Key Award in Drawing.

Senior Gabrielle Andos, is one of only 12 RI art students to win a “RI Scholastic Art Portfolio Award” for her portfolio of apparel and jewelry.

At the Middle School level, two Kickemuit students won Silver Key Awards:

Patrick Martin-Malone (submitted by Art Teacher Maria Camara)

Julian Rodrigo (submitted by Art Teacher Kathleen Dwyer)

Mt. Hope’s 2006 Science Fair was held on February 2nd. The judges had a difficult time with so many excellent entries.

Third Place

Ian Conley – Can You Spot a Liar

Erin Flannery – Bacteria Busters

Kary-Anne Cyr and Amanda Pion – Coliforms in Water

Jeff Allen – The Effects of Different Spices as Preservatives on Ground Beef

Nadine Mattson – The Effects of Ethylene and Temperature on Unripened Bananas

Samantha Martel – Things that Lurk in the Kitchen

Jill Saftel – Which Allopathic Plant is Strongest

Brian Grandgeorge – How E. Coli Affects the Photosynthesis of Elodea

Amy Moreira – Soil Compaction

Alicia Carreiro – How Does Temperature Affect the Strength of a Ceramic Magnet

Second Place

Jillian Hayes – The Effect of Magnetism on Planaria

Chelsea Rainville – Does Age Affect Memory

Heidi Gerjets – Shake Shake Shake

Ross Landry – The Effect of Music on Heart Rate

Eric Motta – The Effect of Soap on the Growth Rate of Pseudomonas

Evan Boisvert – Effects of Road Salts on Pea Plants and Grass

Jessica Silva – Pointe. Ballet. Chaînés.

Colton Gouveia – Throw It Long--How Does Arm Length Affect the Throw of a Football

Stephanie Coyle – The Effects of Caffeine on the Heart

Chelsea Schinigoï – Drinks and Drugs

Placing in the top 10 are:

Christina Fontana – Poly Neo Away

Jamie Souza – Tune In or Tune Out

Kathryn DeGrazia – Which Juice Has the Most Vitamin C

Samantha Brilhante – Can Methane Gas Sink a Ship

Matt Mello – Goal!! An Investigation of Soccer and Its Techniques

Kristin Belmore - The Effects of Road Salt on Ice, Grass and Arborvitae

Best of Fair – Amanda Harvey – Do Carbonated Drinks Increase Student Risk of Osteoporosis

Best Biology – Heather Boulanger – Germ Traffic

Best Chemistry – Matt Sooknah – The Effects of Soil Texture on Water Drainage in Basements

Best Physics – Marissa Simeone – The Effects of UV Light on the Tensile Strength of Hair

And the very special Principal's Award went to:

Kaitlin Mulcahey – Acid Rain and Mt. Hope Bay

The top 10 students will go on to compete at the state level – Good Luck to them all!

Providence Journal recently announced their 2005-2006 All State Selections for Fall Sports. Mt. Hope was well represented in the selections. Congratulations to the following students and their coaches.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY - METROPOLITAN DIVISION

2nd Team: Alfredo Smith

3rd Team: Kurt Decker

Kevin Mendes

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY - METROPOLITAN DIVISION

2nd Team: Katerina Forrest

FOOTBALL

ALL STATE:

1st Team: Matt Urban (also Division III, 1st Team)

2nd Team: Justin Davis (also Division III, 2nd Team)

DIVISION III:

2nd Team: Chris Lapre

Derek Couto

3rd Team: John Brackett

Nick Rocha

Bill Waleryszak

Anthony Simmons

BOYS SOCCER

ALL-STATE:

1st Team: Mike Diogo (also Division I East, 1st Team)

2nd Team: Mike Patriarca (also Division I East, 2nd Team)

DIVISION I EAST:

2nd Team: Nick Medeiros

3rd Team: Troy Silvia

ACADEMIC ALL-DIVISION: Christopher Serpa

GIRLS SOCCER

ALL-STATE:

2nd Team: Ariel Teixeira (also Division I North 1st Team)

Tara Turnbull (also Division I North 1st Team)

DIVISION I NORTH:

2nd Team: Alexandria Teixeira

SPORTSMANSHIP: Julie Nicholson

GIRLS TENNIS

DIVISION IV EAST:

1st Team Singles: Laura Webster

1st Team Doubles: Kristen Woodring

Abby Rathburn

2nd Team Singles: Chelsea Andrade

2nd Team Doubles: Nikki Andrade

Chelsea Verria

SPORTSMANSHIP: Jen Goodman (also Division IV East, 2nd Team Singles)

On January 6th the District held its Spelling Bee. Words were chosen from the 2006 Paideia Word Booklet and Rules. The winner will compete in the State-wide Bee sponsored by the Providence Journal and Cardi's Furniture on March 4th at the URI Feinstein Providence Campus. We would like to congratulate the winners:

Second Place: Brooke Cotta

First Place: Elizabeth Powers

PUBLIC COMMENT – none

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. O'Dell requested that approval of the minutes to the February 13 Workshop be pulled from the consent vote.

Mr. Silva motioned to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Estrella seconded. The motion passed 8 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Mr. Estrella motioned to approve the minutes to the February 13, 2006 Workshop; Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0 (Mr. O'Dell abstained and Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Mr. Silva motioned to seal the minutes to the January 23 and February 13 Executive Sessions; Mr. Brule seconded; the motion passed 8 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Recommendation #BF2006-01: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, accept the proposed 2006-2007 budget package as presented by Administration and the Subcommittee.

Mr. Skuba moved to approve the recommendation; Mr. Silva seconded.

Mrs. Kinsella motioned to table the recommendation; Ms. Travers seconded.

Mr. Skuba said he would not vote to table because the Committee must have an approved budget by February 28th per the enabling legislation. Mrs. Kinsella had concerns about items on the agenda that will impact the budget. Mr. Estrella said the most critical part for the Committee is once authorization is received; we lock ourselves into the top end. Mrs. Kinsella disagreed with going in with the top end and stated she needed time to review, absorb and analyze the budget request; she withdrew her motion to table due to enabling legislation.

Mr. Skuba pointed out that the budget request was created by first replicating the current year's services and programs, which results in a 5.69% increase due to increases in salaries, benefits and utility costs. Added are program needs—NEASC visit, an additional math and a science teacher at Mt. Hope, and \$500,000 for asset protection to cover ADA and fire code issues, bringing the total request to a 7.24% increase over last year's budget.

Mrs. Correia commented that the contribution percentages for the towns (based upon the October 1st enrollment) will be different as a result of a decrease in enrollment of 99 students (a factor of birth), 80 of who are from Warren; Warren's contribution is a lesser percentage

than last year. The artwork throughout the book is done by students. Also, \$915,000 of the monies the Committee reserved for emergencies has been committed to capital projects that were deemed to be critical.

Dr. Mara said the budget is conservative and sadly does not include any of the staff recommendations. In the East Bay area we have received one of the lowest amounts of funding yet we are one of the largest districts. He is concerned that due to a decrease in the numbers of free and reduced lunch students, we will be losing a considerable amount of federal funding; also, our Title I funding is decreasing and we will be losing some literacy funding—this is becoming a community that can afford to pay. Our future is in technology, yet the amount of money we can put toward technology at the high school is abysmal. He thanked the Committee for their work and Mrs. Correia for maintaining our financial stability.

Mrs. Kinsella felt the public should know that the figure that is requested is not the figure we will have to work with. Mrs. McBride said this budget is the most pared down budget to date. Mr. O'Dell commented that usually there is a workshop to discuss the budget prior to voting; also, our appropriation from Joint Finance has lessened over the past three years and the bottom line is woefully inadequate. Mr. Saviano raised concern that the 7.24% increase would put Warren over their tax cap. Mrs. Correia said it is our obligation to educate and we must put forth a budget that will keep us

hobbling along—this budget is our most realistic view of the needs for education. Mrs. Correia also commented that we are using \$1.2M of our fund balance to put a new roof on the high school and suggested we look at the fund balance of the two towns.

The Chairs of the subcommittees agreed to make more detailed reports of their meetings to keep other Committee members better informed.

On a show of hands, the motion to approve Budget/Facilities recommendation BF 2006-01 passed by a vote of 8 to 1, with Mr. Saviano opposed.

POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Recommendation #PC 2006-01: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the new School Committee Policy FF Naming School Facilities (First Reading)

Ms. Travers asked to withdraw this recommendation; issues arose at their meeting just prior to this meeting—the legality of naming a building we do not own, disagreement on the posthumous naming of facilities, disagreement about Town Council representation on the decision-making committee, and the number of votes necessary for approval (perhaps a unanimous vote instead of at least 6 to 3).

Attorney Henneous will respond to the legality issue. The next meeting of the Subcommittee will be Monday, March 6 at 5:30 PM in the Superintendent's Office.

Mr. Skuba left the meeting.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Mt. Hope Home Building Project

Mrs. McBride reported that the house has been sold, the loan from the Town of Bristol has been repaid, the Program is square in terms of finances, and a speaker from the RI Home Builders Association will be at their next meeting at 2:30 PM on March 2nd to help make the program self-sustaining and provide a set curriculum, and she thanked the Bristol Town Council for funding us for a few weeks.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

The action to approve a change order is not necessary.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation #S2006-05 A-F: (approved in the consent vote)

A. CONTINUING ADULT EDUCATION: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individual as an instructor for the 2005-06 Continuing Adult Education Program contingent upon sufficient enrollment:

Name Course

1. Dina Criscione Healing Angels-Energy Field

B. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2005-06 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

WINTER COACHES

Sport Position Coach

1. Lacrosse (Boys) Asst. Coach Pierson Shaw *

HEALTHY HUSKIES WELLNESS CENTER

2. Supervisor (Spring) John Castriotta
3. Supervisor (Spring) Thomas J. DelSanto
4. Supervisor (Spring) Greg Sullivan
5. Supervisor (Spring) Peter Sullivan

INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

6. Baseball Coach Mark Masters

INTRAMURAL COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

7. Track (Outdoor) Coach Brian Beausoliel *

*** Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

C. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for certified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

CERTIFIED

Name Area/Level

- 1. Kristy Carignan Elementary/Sp.Ed.**
- 2. Ann L. Corrado General Subject Matter**
- 3. Jacqueline M. Crevier General Subject Matter**
- 4. Mario DellaGrotta General Subject Matter**
- 5. Michelle Estrela Elementary/Sp.Ed.**
- 6. Maria A. Feid Elementary/MS Social Studies**
- 7. Arthur Ferreira General Subject Matter**
- 8. Laura A. Giannotti General Subject Matter**
- 9. Michael J. Giroux General Subject Matter**
- 10. Laura Jenkins Elementary**
- 11. Keith Kinal General Subject Matter**
- 12. Denise M. Labrecque Elementary**

- 13. Katherine McEachern Elementary/Sp.Ed.**
- 14. Julie Oliveira Elementary**
- 15. Lisa Raposo Elementary**
- 16. Sak Sam General Subject Matter**
- 17. Sandra Robinson-Sullivan General Subject Matter**
- 18. Mindy M. Walker General Subject Matter**
- 19. Cheryl Weinstein Early Childhood**
- 20. Daniel Wenzel General Subject Matter**
- 21. Charles P. White General Subject Matter**

D. CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for classified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

SECRETARIAL

- 1. Betsy Delaney**

TEACHER ASSISTANT

- 2. Marco Neves**
- 3. Angela Riopel**
- 4. Christa M. Resendes**
- 5. Sandra Robinson-Sullivan**

E. LEAVE OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leave of absence for a Secondary Science Teacher as follows:

1. Stacia Jackson Science Teacher – Mt. Hope High

Effective: For the 2006-07 school year

Reason: Parental leave in accordance with

Article 21, Section L2 of the Master

Agreement

F. RESIGNATIONS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations listed below:

1. Donna Bettencourt-Glavin Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Grants

Effective: June 30, 2006

Reason: Retirement

2. Dennis J. Smith Assistant Principal – Mt. Hope High

Effective: March 3, 2006

Reason: Personal

3. Richard Sousa, Jr. Asst. Baseball Coach – Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

4. Erika Saviano Asst. Softball Coach – Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

Recommendation #S2006-06: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a request for home schooling of a repeat ninth grader, adhering to all requirements as set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District. Ms. Travers motioned to approve; Mrs. Kinsella seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2006-07: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the 2006-2007 Mt. Hope High School Program of Studies.

Ms. Travers made a motion to table; Mrs. Kinsella seconded. The Policy Subcommittee would like to review it at their meeting on Monday, March 6 and feels it will impact the budget. Delaying the vote will put the high school behind. The recommendation can be made on March 13—Mrs. McBride will make it a voting meeting. Mrs. McBride duly noted the request for workshops to discuss the budget request and the Program of Studies in the future. Mr. Silva does not approve of tabling the recommendation or the need to have a large amount of input into the program of studies; he feels we need to assist the high school and move forward as quickly as possible so

they can continue the great progress they have made in the past years. Ms. Travers responded we need to look at every angle and put together programs that fit our fiscal responsibilities. Mrs. Kinsella complimented Mrs. Vendituoli on the marvelous job done at the high school, but the Policy Subcommittee is responsible for the curriculum of the district and would like to hone down curriculum and look at the basics. Mr. Saviano asked to have the document a little earlier in order to review it. Mr. O'Dell feels it is not the place of the School Committee to dabble in curriculum at the high school; however, policy requires Committee approval and reiterated the need for a workshop.

On a show of hands, the vote on the motion to table Recommendation S2006-07 until March 13th was: Ms. Travers, Mrs. Kinsella, Mr. Saviano and Mr. Brule yea, and Mr. Estrella, Mr. O'Dell and Mr. Silva opposed. Mrs. McBride chose not to vote. Tabling requires a two-thirds vote. The vote was retaken and results were the same.

Mr. Silva motioned to approve the recommendation; Mr. O'Dell seconded. Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Estrella and Mr. Silva voted yes and Ms. Travers, Mrs. Kinsella, Mr. Saviano and Mr. Brule voted no. The motion failed; the recommendation will be made again on the March 13th agenda.

Youth Art Month

Dr. Mara requested that the School Committee proclaim March 2006

as Youth Art Month. Mr. Estrella, seconded by Ms. Travers, motioned to approve. The motion passed unanimously.

Reynolds SALT Report

Dr. Mara asked to table this report to next month since the report has not been officially released by the Commissioner. Mr. Brule motioned to table; Mrs. Kinsella seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

PowerPoint Presentation on the District

Dr. Mara presented an overview of the District focusing on District classifications, District report card, testing statistics, continuum of services, and related services. He pointed out that we have lost a significant number of free and reduced lunch students.

Mr. Silva commented on the action to accept the resignation of the District Assistant Superintendent and thanked Mrs. Glavin for her years of service and for her part in bringing the District to where it is.

Feasibility Study on the Andrews Addition

Mrs. McBride said a meeting will be set with Mr. Torrado, the District's architect; she will report back to the Committee on March 13th.

Expression of Condolences to Middletown School Committee and Administration

The Assistant Superintendent of Middletown recently passed away; Dr. Mara recommended that the Committee send an expression of

condolence. Mrs. McBride directed the Superintendent, on behalf of the Committee, to send condolences to the Middletown School Committee and Administration.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 9:13 PM

In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mr. O'Dell motioned to go into Executive Session at 9:13 PM for legal advice regarding the Mt. Vernon Group, Colt Andrews Project, Assistant Superintendent position, Mt. Hope Vice-Principal vacancy, Hugh Cole Project and Rockwell bus circle. Mr. Saviano seconded. The motion passed unanimously. When the meeting reconvenes no votes will be taken.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 9:50 PM

Discussed in Executive Session were the issues mentioned above.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:52 PM

There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Kinsella, seconded by Ms. Travers, motioned to adjourn at 9:52 PM. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

William M. O'Dell, Secretary

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